

and applies only to the project or activity, in a way that 36 CFR part 215 or part 218, subpart A, apply.

(b) *Transition.* For the purposes of this section, initiation means that the Agency has provided notice under § 219.9(b) or issued a notice of intent or other public notice announcing the commencement of the process to develop a plan, plan amendment, or plan revision.

(1) *Plan development and plan revisions.* Plan development and plan revisions initiated after April 21, 2008 must conform to the requirements of this subpart, except that the plan for the Tongass National Forest may be revised once under this subpart or the planning regulations in effect before November 9, 2000.

(2) *Plan Amendments.* With respect to plans approved or revised pursuant to the planning regulation in effect before November 9, 2000 (see 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2000), a 3-year transition period for plan amendments begins on April 21, 2008. During the transition period, plan amendments may continue using the provisions of the planning regulation in effect before November 9, 2000, or may conform to the requirements of this subpart. If the responsible official uses the provisions of the prior planning regulations, the responsible official may elect to use either the administrative appeal and review procedures at 36 CFR part 217 in effect prior to November 9, 2000 (See 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2000), or the objection procedures of this subpart. Plan amendments initiated after the transition period must conform to the requirements of this subpart.

(3) *Plan development, plan amendments, or plan revisions underway before this rule.* (i) For plan development, plan amendments, or plan revisions that had been underway before April 21, 2008, using the provisions of the planning regulations in effect before November 9, 2000 (See 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2000) the responsible official is not required to halt the process and start over but may complete those processes in conformance of the provisions of those regulations or in conformance to the requirements of this subpart.

(ii) For plan development plan amendment, or plan revisions that had been underway before April 21, 2008 using the provisions of the planning regulations in effect January 5, 2005 (See 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2005) the responsible official is not required to start over under this subpart upon a finding that the plan, plan amendment, or plan revision process undertaken before April 21, 2008 conforms to the requirements of this subpart.

(iii) The responsible official may elect to use either the administrative appeal and review procedures at 36 CFR part 217 in effect prior to November 9, 2000 (See 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2000), or the objection procedures of this subpart, except when a plan amendment is approved contemporaneously with a project or activity and applies only to the project or activity, in a way that 36 CFR part 215 or part 218, subpart A, apply.

(4) *Plans developed, amended, or revised using the provisions of the planning rule in effect prior to November 9, 2000.* For units with plans developed, amended, or revised using the provisions of the planning rule in effect prior to November 9, 2000 (See 36 CFR parts 200 to 299, Revised as of July 1, 2000), that rule is without effect. No obligations remain from that regulation, except those that are those specifically in the plan.

§ 219.15 Severability.

In the event that any specific provision of this rule is deemed by a court to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.

§ 219.16 Definitions.

Definitions of the special terms used in this subpart are set out in alphabetical order.

Adaptive management: A system of management practices based on clearly identified outcomes and monitoring to determine if management actions are meeting desired outcomes, and if not, to facilitate management changes that will best ensure that outcomes are met or re-evaluated. Adaptive management stems from the recognition that knowledge about natural resource systems is sometimes uncertain.